

# Buying Canadian is the hot trend



NATALIE DEANE  
GOOD  
LIVING

As Canadian-U.S. trade relations continue to be strained by tariffs and insults, it is no surprise that Canadians are taking a stand.

Social media has been inundated with hashtags like #BuyCanadian #MadeinCanada and #BoycottUSProducts.

Buying Canadian is the hottest new trend.

If you too are feeling more patriotic and wanting to show it at the checkout counter, here are some great Canadian brands you can support.

## Food first

Start your day with a cup of Canadian coffee. It may not be the cup you are thinking of — Second Cup is a Canadian owned café chain with 300 shops across the country.

It's Burger time! With over 850 restaurants, A&W Canada is no small fry in the world of burgers. Originally part of the bigger American chain, the Canadian link broke off. It is now a completely Canadian owned business even offering a different menu than in the U.S.

If you haven't heard about the ketchup wars, you are missing a great red battle. Heinz was king until they crushed the Leamington, Ont. manufacturing plant, and then French's came in to save the day. Though British owned, it is manufactured here, and helps our economy.

If you want, 100% Canadian ketchup grab a bottle of Primo — Canadian owned Canadian tomatoes and Canadian manufacturing.

What's more Canadian than a trip to Swiss Chalet? Nothing. Recipe Unlimited, formerly CARA Operations Ltd. Swiss Chalet's parent company, headquartered in Vaughan, owns Harvey's, Fionn Mac-Cools, Kelsey's, Montana's — the list goes on. All great Canadian family restaurants.



Start your day with a good cup of Canadian coffee.

## Safe at home

Homeowners helping homeowners — Home Hardware is a 100% Canadian owned company, founded in St. Jacobs in 1964. It is a co-operative made up of over 1100 independently owned member stores.

If you need some hardware or construction supplies, skip the big box stores that are all American.

Are you redecorating your home? Looking for a new sofa, loveseat or dining room set? It is easy to shop Canadian with a trip to Leon's. Since 1909 Leon's has been selling furniture to Canadian's making it truly part of the Canadian family.

Your kitchen is the heart of the home. Give it a solid stone counter base. HanStone Canada is the country's premier quartz manufacturer; in fact, the plant in London is Ontario's only quartz manufacturer.

Using the highest standard of locally sourced raw materials HanStone manufactures quartz slabs for all of North America.

Blanco has been producing high quality kitchen technology since 1925 they are celebrated for their German engineering, Euro design and Canadian manufacturing.

Here in Canada, they produce SILGRANIT a natural granite composite material used to make the most durable sinks and faucets.

The largest recycled paper collector in Canada, Cascades is a leader in the production and conversion of corrugated products, tissue paper and specialty products in North America.

Cascades paper towels, toilet paper and tissues can all be bought at retailers like Metro, Walmart or online at amazon.ca.

Whirlpool Canada Inc. (formerly Inglis Limited) has a proud heritage in Canada dating back to 1859. Originally founded by John Inglis in Guelph, Ont., Whirlpool Corporation is the world's leading manufacturer and marketer of home appliances. Whirlpool Canada's portfolio of brands includes Inglis, Whirlpool, Maytag, KitchenAid, Jenn-Air, and Amana.

Canadian Tire, with Canada in its name you know you cannot go wrong! Besides selling, everything you need for your car you can score all your sporting goods, home and lifestyle items too.

— *Natalie Deane is a lifestyle connoisseur who writes about trends in home decor, travel and entertainment. Find her at [www.nataliedeane.com](http://www.nataliedeane.com), @nataliedeane on Instagram and @natalie\_deane on Twitter.*



Canadian Tire: With Canada in its name, you can't go wrong.

# Is the formal dining room dead?



JANE LOCKHART  
DESIGN  
CONFIDENTIAL

Recently a client asked me, 'Is the formal dining room dead?'

Just as foods go in and out of fashion (I'm looking at you, kale chips) where and how we dine has also been subject to change.

After working on many projects transforming formerly closed off dining rooms into open concept main floors, it's a fair question to ask.

After all, where did the formal dining room come from? Slaves served food to the royal family and guests in the great hall, in medieval times. The host family sat at a raised table while everyone else sat in rows below.

In fact, where you were seated signified your value to the family. The further away, the more dispensable you were. A strict affair, you had no choice

but to behave and follow protocol or you were removed, permanently. Enjoy your meal!

We showed a little more diplomacy in the 20th century. No more raised, massive head tables, the nuclear family now sat at a scaled down, square, round or rectangle table.

In the suburbs and city alike, family and friends ate together in a coordinated dining suite. Manufactured to match, the glassed-in china cabinet, buffet or sideboard, table, and chairs constituted the average formal dining room, for the good part of the century.

So, what happened? Distractions like radios, TVs, commuting, busy lives, almost everything seemed to take attention away from the eating together, conversing... and making eye contact. With fewer diners at home at the same time, the dinner table became a symbol of neglect.

Fast food, microwaves, technology in general, all made it easier to cook almost anything at any time, to accom-

modate our various schedules and desires. The dining room table became a desk, a sorting table for laundry, almost anything but a place to dine.

Every holiday or special occasion meant clearing off the debris on the table, dusting off the fine china, only to see it go back into disuse after the meal was over.

Today, while many of us embrace the airiness of open-concept living, surprisingly, many renovations still include plans for a dining room along with the open concept plan.

Thankfully, our furnishings and decor aren't as rigidly dictated and we're not as inclined to incorporate a suite for dining as we once were. Still, something has changed, it's the word, formal.

Also gone? Take a look at any used furniture sales site and you'll see those once-treasured dining room furniture suites for sale. We don't want our ancestors' dining furniture but we do want that dining experience.

As trends cycle through our lives, people start to feel nos-

talgic, like missing the family meal when everyone sat together to eat and catch up. I have a feeling the concept of sitting at a table together, eating is making a comeback.

Families are making an effort to take a break from the

24-hour news cycle and the distractions from ever-imposing technology to embrace dinner together again.

Whether it is in a separate room in the house or part of an open plan, the dining room is alive and well. Maybe

you can throw a dinner party just to let everyone know.

— *Jane Lockhart is a celebrity designer, TV personality and leading expert in the world of design. Visit [www.janelockhart.com](http://www.janelockhart.com).*



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